

IN THE CLAIMS

CLAIM LISTING:

Claim 1 (currently amended) In combination, a columnar jack concealing structure ~~for a columnar support of a structure, the columnar jack concealing structure~~ comprising:

an adjustable, ~~flexible~~ foldable strap;

an adjustable columnar jack;

a stiff skirt circumferentially adjustable relative to the columnar support, ~~the stiff skirt aesthetically~~ for concealing the adjustable columnar jack;

a mechanically adjustable clamp; and

a ~~the~~ columnar support, the adjustable columnar jack ~~for~~ supporting and securing the columnar support, the adjustable, ~~flexible~~ foldable strap ~~for~~ surrounding and engaging a portion of the columnar support adjacent the adjustable columnar jack, the mechanically adjustable clamp ~~for~~ attaching the adjustable, stiff skirt to the adjustable, ~~flexible~~ foldable strap and to the columnar support, ~~the adjustable, stiff skirt for concealing the adjustable columnar jack, the adjustable, flexible~~ foldable strap being folded for folding over, the adjustable, foldable strap aesthetically and ~~for~~ protectively covering the mechanically adjustable clamp.

Claim 2 (currently amended) The combination of claim 1, wherein the columnar support has a top end and a bottom end opposite the top end, the adjustable columnar jack

being positioned for placement at either the top end or the bottom end and concealed thereat by the adjustable, stiff skirt.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The combination of claim 1, wherein the adjustable, ~~flexible~~ foldable strap is an annular band member having ends, the ends being disposed for disposing in lapped relation, the adjustable, ~~flexible~~ foldable strap being adjustable to cooperatively engage for placement about varying sizes, dimensions, and shapes of columnar supports, the columnar supports having a cross-section selected from the group consisting of circular, square, and irregular cross-sections, the adjustable, ~~flexible~~ foldable strap ~~for concealing the mechanically adjustable clamp and for~~ providing moisture protection to the columnar support.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The combination of claim 3, wherein the adjustable, ~~flexible~~ foldable strap is constructed of a moisture adsorbing material.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended) The combination of claim 1 wherein the combination further comprises, further comprising the a building structure, the building structure being wherein the structure is a log cabin, and the columnar support is a wood column, the wood column being attached to and supporting a portion of the log cabin, and the columnar jack concealing structure coacts with the wood column of the log cabin for allowing ease of

~~access to the adjustable columnar jack for maintaining a level wood column and log cabin following wood shrinkage.~~

Claims 7 – 31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (withdrawn) A method of concealing a columnar jack using a columnar jack concealing kit with a columnar support, the method comprising the acts of:

providing a columnar jack;

attaching the columnar jack to the columnar support and adjusting the columnar jack for securing the columnar support;

wrapping an adjustable, flexible strap about the secured columnar support and securing the adjustable, flexible strap to the secured columnar support;

wrapping an adjustable, stiff skirt about the secured adjustable, flexible strap and the secured columnar support and adjusting and securing the adjustable, stiff skirt to the secured adjustable, flexible strap and the secured columnar support, thus covering the attached columnar jack with the secured adjustable, stiff skirt and concealing the attached columnar jack from view;

mounting, adjusting, and securing a mechanically adjustable clamp around and over the secured adjustable, flexible strap, the secured adjustable, stiff skirt, and the secured columnar support for securing same in assembled relation to conceal the attached columnar jack; and

folding the secured adjustable, flexible strap over an upper end of the secured adjustable, stiff skirt and over the secured mechanically adjustable clamp for concealing at least a portion of the secured adjustable, stiff skirt and concealing and protectively covering the secured mechanically adjustable clamp.

Claim 33 (withdrawn) The method of claim 32, wherein the acts of attaching the columnar jack, wrapping the adjustable, flexible strap, wrapping the adjustable, stiff skirt, covering the attached columnar jack, mounting, adjusting, and securing the mechanically

adjustable clamp, and folding the secured adjustable, flexible strap are performed selectively right-side up for placement of the columnar jack below the columnar support and upside-down for placement of the columnar jack above the columnar support.

Claim 34 (withdrawn) The method of claim 32, wherein the acts of attaching the columnar jack, wrapping the adjustable, flexible strap, wrapping the adjustable, stiff skirt, covering the attached columnar jack, mounting, adjusting, and securing the mechanically adjustable clamp, and folding the secured adjustable, flexible strap are performed sequentially for installing the columnar jack concealing kit.

Claim 35 (withdrawn) The method of claim 32, further comprising the act of uninstalling the columnar jack concealing kit by performing the acts of unfolding the secured adjustable, flexible strap, loosening and removing the mechanically adjustable clamp, uncovering the attached columnar jack, unwrapping and removing the adjustable, stiff skirt, unwrapping and removing the adjustable, flexible strap, and loosening and detaching the columnar jack from the columnar support.

Claim 36 (withdrawn) The method of claim 32, further comprising accessing the attached columnar jack through the adjustable, stiff skirt for further adjusting the attached columnar jack and for leveling the columnar support.

Claim 37 (withdrawn) The method of claim 32, wherein the folded over secured adjustable flexible strap provides a protective cover protecting the mechanically adjustable clamp and protecting the columnar support from moisture penetration.

Claim 38 (withdrawn) The method of claim 32 further including lapping opposite ends of the adjustable, flexible strap in snug circumferential attached retained attachment about an outer perimeter of the columnar support and using the mechanically adjustable clamp to circumferentially clamp the stiff skirt in engaged relation with the adjustable,

flexible strap in unitary assembled relation whereafter the secured adjustable, flexible strap is return bent to conceal the secured mechanically adjustable clamp.

Claim 39 (withdrawn) The method of claim 32 wherein the columnar jack and the column can be relatively adjusted with respect to one another where the column is a log and where the log has shrunk in length by loosening the secured adjustable, flexible strap to allow upright vertical edges of the secured adjustable, stiff skirt to be spread enabling access to be made to the columnar jack for mechanical adjustment of the columnar jack.

Claim 40 (currently amended) A columnar structural support assembly, the columnar structural support assembly comprising, in combination:

an adjustable strap member;

an adjustable clamp;

an adjustable columnar jack; and

an adjustable sleeve, the adjustable strap member being ~~sized and~~ constructed of a foldable flexible material for folding, the adjustable strap member being folded over upon itself and over the adjustable clamp ~~for~~, the adjustable strap member thus providing a visually aesthetic cover for the adjustable clamp, the adjustable clamp ~~for~~ coupling the adjustable strap member with the adjustable sleeve, the adjustable sleeve being ~~sized and~~ constructed of a stiff material ~~for~~, the adjustable sleeve thus providing a visually aesthetic cover for the adjustable columnar jack.

Claim 41 (previously presented) The columnar structural support assembly of claim 40 wherein the columnar structural support assembly comprises a columnar structural

support, the columnar structural support comprising a select support end, the adjustable columnar jack for positioned placement adjacent the select support end.

Claim 42 (previously presented) The columnar structural support assembly of claim 41 wherein the select support end is selected from the group consisting of a top end and a bottom end.

Claim 43 (currently amended) The columnar structural support assembly of claim 40 wherein the ~~flexible~~ foldable material of the adjustable strap member and the stiff material of the adjustable sleeve coact with the adjustable clamp to extend upwards, downwards, or at an angle over the adjustable columnar jack.

Claim 44 (currently amended) A structural support assembly, the structural support assembly comprising, in combination:

an adjustable strap member;

an adjustable clamp;

an adjustable columnar jack;

an adjustable sleeve; and

a select structural support, the select structural support comprising a select support end, the adjustable columnar jack being for positioned placement adjacent the select support end, the adjustable strap member being ~~sized and~~ constructed of a ~~flexible~~ foldable material, the adjustable strap member being folded for folding over upon itself and over the adjustable clamp, the adjustable strap member thus

~~for~~ providing a visually aesthetic cover for the adjustable clamp, the adjustable clamp ~~for~~ coupling the adjustable strap member with the adjustable sleeve, the adjustable sleeve being ~~sized and~~ constructed of a stiff material, the adjustable sleeve ~~for~~ providing a visually aesthetic cover for the adjustable columnar jack.

Claim 45 (currently amended) The structural support assembly of claim 44 wherein the foldable ~~flexible~~ material of the adjustable strap member and the stiff material of the adjustable sleeve coact with the adjustable clamp to extend upwards, downwards, or at an angle over the adjustable columnar jack, the adjustable strap member being an annular strap member, the annular strap member comprising a soft, ~~foldable~~ cloth material, the annular strap member being in ~~for~~-lapped engagement about the select structural support and itself.

Claim 46 (currently amended) The structural support assembly of claim 45 wherein the ~~flexible~~ foldable material and the stiff material present a uniform, visually aesthetic appearance, the uniform, visually aesthetic appearance blending with the select structural support.

Claim 47 (previously presented) The structural support assembly of claim 44 wherein the select structural support is selected from the group consisting of a column, a post, a beam, and a joist.

Claim 48 (previously presented) The structural support assembly of claim 44 wherein the select support end is selected from the group consisting of a top end and a bottom end.

Claim 49 (new) A structural column assembly, the structural column assembly for providing aesthetically adjustable columnar support to a building structure, the building structure comprising a structure-jack interface and a structure-column interface, the structural column assembly comprising, in combination:

a columnar support, a strap member, a columnar jack, a skirt member, and a columnar clamp, the columnar support comprising an outer columnar surface, a column-jack end, a column-structure end, the column-jack end having a column periphery magnitude, the strap member being constructed from a foldable material, the strap member comprising an inner strap surface, an outer strap surface, a first strap end, a second strap end, a strap length, a strap height, a fold edge, a stationary edge, a fold region, and strap length adjustment means, the strap length extending intermediate the first and second strap ends, the fold region being substantially equidistant from the fold edge and the stationary edge, the strap height extending intermediate the fold edge and the stationary edge, the columnar jack comprising a structure-engaging portion, a column-engaging portion, and jack adjustment means, the skirt member being constructed from a stiff material, the skirt member comprising an inner skirt surface, an outer skirt surface, a first skirt end, a second skirt end, a skirt length, a skirt height, a strap-engaging edge, a structure-engaging edge, and skirt length adjustment means, the



skirt length extending intermediate the first and second skirt ends, the skirt height extending intermediate the strap-engaging edge and the structure-engaging edge, the columnar clamp comprising an inner clamp surface, an outer clamp surface, a first clamp end, a second clamp end, a clamp length, a clamp height, a fold-side edge, an open clamp edge, and clamp length adjustment means, the clamp length extending intermediate the first and second clamp ends, the clamp height extending intermediate the fold-side edge and the open clamp edge, the structure-engaging portion engaging the structure-jack interface, the column-engaging portion engaging the column-jack end, the column-structure end engaging the structure-column interface, the jack adjustment means enabling a user to vertically adjust the columnar support, the columnar jack thus having a vertically adjustable exposed jack height intermediate the column-jack end and the structure-jack interface, the skirt height being greater in magnitude than the exposed jack height, the strap height being greater than twice the magnitude of the clamp height, the inner strap surface engaging the outer columnar surface adjacent column jack end, the strap member thus concealing the column-jack end, the strap-engaging edge engaging the outer strap surface intermediate the fold region and the stationary edge, the structure-engaging edge engaging the structure-jack interface, the skirt member thus concealing the columnar jack, the inner clamp surface engaging the outer skirt surface adjacent the strap-engaging edge, the columnar clamp clamping the skirt member and the strap member to the columnar support adjacent the column-jack end, the strap member being folded at the fold region, the fold region engaging the strap-engaging edge, the outer strap surface

adjacent the fold edge engaging the outer clamp surface, the inner strap surface adjacent the fold edge thus concealing the clamp member, the outer columnar surface being visually similar to the inner strap surface and the outer skirt surface, the structural column assembly thus providing aesthetically adjustable columnar support to the building structure.

Claim 50 (new) The structural column assembly of claim 49 wherein the strap length adjustment means, the skirt length adjustment means, and the clamp length adjustment means are operable to adjust the strap length, the skirt length, and the clamp length according to the column periphery magnitude.

Claim 51 (new) The structural column assembly of claim 49 wherein the structure-jack interface is a superior surface of a column support structure of the building structure and the structure-column interface is an inferior surface of a ceiling support structure of the building structure.

Claim 52 (new) The structural column assembly of claim 49 wherein the strap is constructed from a moisture-adsorbing material.

Claim 53 (new) A structural column assembly kit, the structural column assembly kit for adjustably outfitting a columnar support of a structure, the columnar support comprising an outer column surface, a column-jack end, and a column-structure end, the column-jack end having a column periphery magnitude, the building structure comprising

a structure-jack interface and a structure-column interface, the structural column assembly kit comprising:

a strap member, a columnar jack, a skirt member, and a columnar clamp, the strap member being constructed from a foldable material, the strap member comprising an inner strap surface, an outer strap surface, a first strap end, a second strap end, a strap length, a strap height, a fold edge, a stationary edge, a fold region, and strap length adjustment means, the strap length extending intermediate the first and second strap ends, the fold region being substantially equidistant from the fold edge and the stationary edge, the strap height extending intermediate the fold edge and the stationary edge, the columnar jack comprising a structure-engaging portion, a column-engaging portion, and jack adjustment means, the skirt member being constructed from a stiff material, the skirt member comprising an inner skirt surface, an outer skirt surface, a first skirt end, a second skirt end, a skirt length, a skirt height, a strap-engaging edge, a structure-engaging edge, and skirt length adjustment means, the skirt length extending intermediate the first and second skirt ends, the skirt height extending intermediate the strap-engaging edge and the structure-engaging edge, the columnar clamp comprising an inner clamp surface, an outer clamp surface, a first clamp end, a second clamp end, a clamp length, a clamp height, a fold-side edge, an open clamp edge, and clamp length adjustment means, the clamp length extending intermediate the first and second clamp ends, the clamp height extending intermediate the fold-side edge and the open clamp edge, the structure-engaging portion engaging the structure-jack interface, the column-engaging portion engaging the column-jack

end, the column-structure end engaging the structure-column interface, the jack adjustment means enabling a user to vertically adjust the columnar support, the columnar jack thus having a vertically adjustable exposed jack height intermediate the column-jack end and the structure-jack interface, the skirt height being greater in magnitude than the exposed jack height, the strap height being greater than the magnitude of the clamp height, the inner strap surface engaging the outer columnar surface adjacent column jack end, the strap member thus concealing the column-jack end, the strap-engaging edge engaging the outer strap surface intermediate the fold region and the stationary edge, the structure-engaging edge engaging the structure-jack interface, the skirt member thus concealing the columnar jack, the inner clamp surface engaging the outer skirt surface adjacent the strap-engaging edge, the columnar clamp clamping the skirt member and the strap member to the columnar support adjacent the column-jack end, the strap member being folded at the fold region, the fold region being adjacent the strap-engaging edge, the outer strap surface adjacent the fold edge engaging the outer clamp surface, the inner strap surface adjacent the fold edge thus concealing the clamp member, the structural column assembly thus providing adjustable columnar support to the building structure.

Claim 54 (new) The structural column assembly kit of claim 53 wherein the outer columnar surface is visually similar to the inner strap surface and the outer skirt surface, the structural column assembly thus providing aesthetically adjustable columnar support to the structure.

Claim 55 (new) The structural column assembly kit of claim 53 wherein the strap length adjustment means, the skirt length adjustment means, and the clamp length adjustment means are operable to adjust the strap length, the skirt length, and the clamp length according to the column periphery magnitude.

Claim 56 (new) The structural column assembly kit of claim 53 wherein the structure is a building structure and the structure-jack interface is a superior surface of a column support structure of the building structure and the structure-column interface is an inferior surface of a ceiling support structure of the building structure.

Claim 57 (new) The structural column assembly kit of claim 53 wherein the strap is constructed from a moisture-adsorbing material.